

319 Vaniman Street
Akron, Ohio

10-30-27.

Dear Mr Shift Hunter:

Mr Robert F. Chambers of 254 Irving Ave., Providence, R.I. 5¢ Taylor Specialist, has sent us a block of 6 of the 7¢ flat plate of 1922 in which 5 of the stamps show a slight but distinct doubling and one of them may be a triple. This block is from the lower left corner of a lower left pane with the engravers initials at the corner. All are greatly magnified by this sketch and require a glass. We welcome Mr Chambers as the 9th Shift Hunter.

Allow me to also introduce Maj. Chas. H. Bonesteel of 3220 Klingler Rd. N.W., Washington, D.C. who specializes in U.S. low values up to 1887 and is the original artist of the 3¢ green mat which we use for illustrating shifts. The Major is the 10th Shift Hunter to offer exchange of information on unlisted shifts and says we can count him in as one of the gang.

Here is something more for "you-all" to look for. I found it in a circuit. It looks like a Triple Transfer on the Hudson Fulton with plate number, pane and pane position complete. Thruout the entire stamp and at the lower left there is a clear downward shift while at the top there is a nice upward shift showing above the stamp. Imperf. doubles list at \$7.50 so how about this one? It is 6-UL-5393.

Next in order is to find it on a perforated block. It is the only shift on this entire plate as I have just examined a full uncut sheet.

(Please overlook any typographical errors in these Shift Hunter Letters. They take up a lot of time and are gratis so perhaps you will excuse mistakes.)

Just found the second copy of a 3¢ green Triple Transfer that I have had for over two years. The usual (not common) double on the 3¢ green is the double top line. This triple shows three distinct top lines and is well worth looking for. It is much more distinct than the 12¢ triples of 1912-1917. #184, 1879, American.

Mr Chambers also sends a small shift on the 3¢-1861. Design and color on this stamp do not tend toward outstanding contrast for the benefit of Shift Hunters but after a carefull study of the design this is really a strong shift showing also in "Three Cents" and in the "U" as well as in both corners.



Imprint 5393



10/30/64 Shift Hunter Letter

Mr H.M. Jones has agreed to place a bit of extra effort on the 2¢-green of 1887 and already has two major and several minor shifts listed. A new mat with the exact number of beads or pearls is under preparation and some day we hope to persuade editor Fennel to publish Mr Jones data. I suggest that we all send "Shifty Jones" anything we find on this stamp. He will give due credit for new finds and perhaps we may get a Shift Hunter Letter from him now and then. I have no patent on these letters you know.

The convention news knocked us out of the last American Philatelist. Heres hoping for the Nov. 1st number.

I think that every shift hunter should have a copy of Dr Chase's book on the 3¢-1851-57. Tracy & Ashbrook on the 12¢ 1851-57 and Ashbrook on the 1¢-1851-57. These books contain many illustrations of double transfers and soon pay for themselves by the shifts which you pick up from circuits, etc. within a few months.

Mr Vestal finds the usual shift(not common) of the 1¢-1908-10 in a coil pair of #348. Shifts on coils are fine property. There are 11 catalogue numbers for the 1¢-1908-10, with booklet panes in addition. I have not seen a shift on a booklet plate of this stamp and have found shifts on all but #387 & #390. Look for coil shifts. They are hard to find.

The questionable shift circuit was a surprising success. The last on the list now has it and we will soon rerout it with the comments tabulated.

Don't overlook shifts on cover. They occur in the most surprising places. Precancel circuits, plate number circuits, mission pound bags, old post cards, checks, old photographs, deeds payrolls, all contain plunder for the Shift Hunter.

"Wherever there is a stamp there may be a shift"

I have just had the pleasure of purchasing the shift accumulation of an old and well known collector whose kindly letters have been a delight to read. Among them came a third pane of the 1¢-Pilgrim plate 12418 which plates four more of the shifts. We now have only three on which we cannot give the complete plate position. We lack the upper right pane. There are several big shifts in the other three panes. Perhaps all of the shifts (major) come from the same pane.

At the request of Mr Hamilton we are preparing mats of the Spanish War Revenues on which there are many shifts. Also the 3¢, 4¢, & 5¢ civil war revenue. More later.

Question: What is the difference between a SHIFT, a DOUBLE TRANSFER, a SHIFTED TRANSFER and a REENTRY. Sure, I think I know, but lets have your vote. Drop me a card and we will discuss the results in the next Letter. So far the Shift Hunters have cooperated to the last man on all of our stunts. That's fine.

Philatelically yours
C. W. Bedford